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STATEMENT BY COMMISSIONER ADELSTEIN IN RESPONSE TO THE DELETION OF THE MINORITY OWNERSHIP ITEM FROM TODAY'S AGENDA

I'm pleased that the Commission has backed off its fig leaf attempt to address minority and female ownership. It was an obvious effort to provide cover for more media consolidation, which would only have take media outlets further out of the reach of women and minorities. It was designed to check the box and move on.

It's high time we create an independent, bipartisan panel that will look at these issues in a comprehensive and substantive fashion. Media sharecropping is no substitute for media ownership. Given the crisis we face in ownership, we need real actions, not just token gestures. We need to heed the many calls from Congress and diverse voices across America who are demanding we act to improve women and minority ownership before, not after, we vote on media ownership rules.